

## **From the Inside Out: How Indiana's Courts Work**

Educ W505    Class Number 4733    June 14-25, 2010    Daily 8:00-12:30

<http://www.in.gov/judiciary/citc/special/summerincity2010/index.html>

### **Contact Information:**

Dr. Elizabeth Osborn

Address: 200 W. Washington Street, Room 304, Indianapolis, IN 46204

Office: 317-233-8682 (direct)                      317-232-2550 (main line)

Fax: 317-233-2990                      Email: [eosborn@courts.state.in.us](mailto:eosborn@courts.state.in.us)

### **Course Description:**

This hands-on workshop is designed to familiarize participants with the daily operation of Indiana's various courts and to provide resources for use in teaching about the courts and the law.

### **Course Policies:**

Attendance: Attendance is required at all class meetings and fieldtrips. More than 1 absence may result in an F for the class. Please discuss with the instructor any concerns you might have.

Grading: This class is offered only as a Pass/Fail option. Requirements to pass the class include: completion of five 1-page (typed) reflection papers, completion of library research assignment, completion of one 5-page (typed) "opinion" in either the case of *Bradley Love v. Robert Rehfus* or *Jeffrey Tharp v. State of Indiana*, and participation in a mock oral argument. Note: passing simply requires completion and participation. All that is asked is that you put forth your best effort.

Course Materials: All course materials are provided either in the course binder and/or on the course website: <http://www.in.gov/judiciary/citc/special/summerincity2010/index.html>

#### "Office Hours:"

- Dr. Osborn: Dr. Osborn will be in the Statehouse most afternoons following class time for will be available for questions, etc. She is also available via email during regular business hours, [eosborn@courts.state.in.us](mailto:eosborn@courts.state.in.us).
- Supreme Court Law Library: Students will have access to the Indiana Supreme Court Law Library each day after class. Students may use the computers and other resources to complete class work.
- Supreme Court Intern: Indiana Supreme Court summer law intern Traci Tetrick, a second year law student at IU Indianapolis, will also be available to help students with their research and mock oral argument preparation.
- Supreme Court Law Clerks: Clerks from the justices' chambers will be available at specific times to help with mock oral argument preparation.

### **Required Assignments:**

#### **1. 1-page papers (4):** (all students)

Following each of the four fieldtrips (Marion County courts, Hamilton County courthouse, juvenile courts, and women's prison) you are required to write a 1-page (typed) paper reflecting on our visit. You may focus on a description of the facility, information you learned about the judicial process, and/or how this visit might be incorporated into your teaching.

**2. Watch an archived Indiana Supreme Court oral argument (all students)**

Watch an archived Indiana Supreme Court oral argument that you choose from the oral arguments online database, <https://mycourts.in.gov/arguments/>. You can search by key words, date, etc. Choose a case that interests you.

Write a 1-page summary of the case. (only for students registered for credit)

You may write about the case itself and/or about the argument from a procedural perspective.

- **Papers are due at the beginning of class the day after the fieldtrip.** The oral argument summary can be turned in at any time, but no later than Wednesday, June 23.

**3. Library Research: (all students)**

Complete the assignment using resources from the Indiana Supreme Court Law Library.

**4. Final Paper: (only for students registered for credit)**

Following your preparation and participation in a mock oral argument, and your attendance at the live Indiana Supreme Court oral argument, you will write your own legal opinion for either the case *Bradley Love v. Robert Rehfus* or *Jeffrey Tharp v. State of Indiana* on June 25. Your opinion should be approximately 5 pages (typed, double-spaced) and reflect everything you have learned about the case. Remember, this is a legally reasoned opinion based on what you have learned about the facts and the law; it is not your personal opinion. You may confer with your classmates as you prepare your opinion, but this is not a group project. Each student must prepare and turn in their own paper.

**Plagiarism:\***

Plagiarism is defined by the university as: “the offering of the work of someone else as one's own. Honesty requires that any ideas or materials taken from another source for either written or oral use must be fully acknowledged. The language or ideas taken from another may range from isolated formulas, sentences, or paragraphs to entire articles copied from books, periodicals, speeches, or the writings of other students. Any student who fails to give credit for ideas or materials taken from another source is guilty of plagiarism.”

Plagiarism and/or academic dishonesty, including copying or collaborating with other students on any of the written assignments, unless otherwise advised, will absolutely not be tolerated. Plagiarism will result in failure of the assignment and may result in failure of the course. It will also be reported to the Dean of the School for further review.

**Right to accommodation for individuals with disabilities**

Indiana University is committed to creating a learning environment and academic community that promotes educational opportunities for all individuals, including those with disabilities. Course directors are asked to make reasonable accommodations, upon request by the student or the university, for such disabilities. It is the responsibility of students with documented physical or learning disabilities seeking accommodation to notify their course directors and the relevant campus office that deals with such cases in a timely manner concerning the need for such accommodation. Indiana University will make reasonable accommodations for access to programs, services, and facilities as outlined by applicable state and federal laws.

**Students requesting disability-related accommodations and/or services should contact Adaptive Educational Services at 317-274-3241.**